



# THE CHINA MAIL.

No. 6794.—MAY 7, 1885.

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From a recent number of the *Saigonais* we learn that the despatch vessel *Chasseur*, from Europe, arrived at Saigon on her way to Tonquin, on the 29th ult. The transport *Shamrock* arrived at Saigon on the 25th en route for home from Tonquin, with 488 officers and men, sick, wounded, and lame—expired.

The *Saigonais* of the 1st inst. says that the arrival of General Bégin was expected by the next Messageries boat. General Bégin was proceeding to Cochinchina to replace General Bouet as commander of the troops. General Bouet was to return to Europe by the mail of the 18th May. It is believed that General Bégin will perform the functions of Governor of the Colony during the absence of M. Thomson, who is to be granted sick leave.

The following is the Order of the Day for the next meeting of the members of the Legislative Council:

1. The Attorney General to move that the Council sit into Committee on the Bill to amend the Post Office Ordinance.

2. The Attorney General to move the third reading of the following Bills:—(a) The Married Women's Disposition of Property Ordinance, 1885.—(b) The Bill to amend Ordinance 10 of 1873 (Trade Marks).

3. The Attorney General to move the second reading of the Bill for the prevention of abuses connected with Child Adoption and Domestic Service.

4. The Attorney General to move the first reading of a Bill entitled The French Mail Steamers Ordinance—continuation Ordinance, 1885.

MAJOR GENERAL A. H. Gordon, who was some time ago appointed Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, and who arrived here by the steamer *Glenarvan* on the 4th instant, yesterday took over charge of the Gaol from Mr A. Falconer, late Acting Superintendent. Major General Gordon expressed to Mr Falconer his satisfaction at the highly creditable condition of the Gaol as regarded cleanliness and general arrangements, and considered that the discipline of the establishment was most effectually carried out and was not in any way behind that in force in the best prison of which he had any experience, though some of the arrangements might be a little old-fashioned.

Mr Falconer has, we understand, returned to his duties as second master at the Government Central School.

A FIRE broke out this morning in a large matchshop which had recently been erected close to the Joss-house at Tai Hang, a small village just above the Shau-ki-wan Road, near the Taku Sugar Refinery. The hut was erected for the purpose of storing crackers, bombs, and prizes which were collected for the religious celebrations which have been carried on for several days past in honour of the Chinese goddess Tien Hau, who would appear to be a Venus and Juno combined. The collection of "cambawas" and prizes stored in the shed would probably amount to several hundred dollars in value.

The fire broke out about 9 or 9.15 a.m., and in a few minutes the whole building was in a blaze, and it was found impossible to save much of the contents. Within a very short time, however, the fire burnt itself out. Full particulars of the amount of damage sustained have not yet been obtained.

We hear that Miss Nelly McGuire, the unfortunate woman who has for several months past figured rather frequently in the Police reports as a destitute and for disorderly conduct, has to-day left the Colony for Madras, where she has some friends resident. Some weeks ago an application was made by her to the Government for a passage to India, but the authorities were unable to comply with the request. Since then Mr A. Falconer, late Acting Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, has interested himself in the case and has collected from various charitably-disposed friends sufficient funds to pay for the passage of Miss McGuire to Madras, and also to enable him to send a moderate sum to her friends at Madras to enable them to provide for her there, at least for a time. Mr Falconer, during his term of office in Victoria Gaol, in an uncharacteristic manner, has done a great deal to assist the deserving European destitutes in the Colony, having obtained employment for many of them and assisted others out of the Colony.

The *Shen Pao* protests, in its leading article of April 16th, against the withdrawal of the Chinese troops from Tonquin before the treaty of peace is signed and ratified. It is a surrender of everything China has been fighting for. Besides, it is not possible to withdraw the Yunnan army in less than forty days. France has made the first overture and to show her sincerity she should first recall her ships, leaving the Chinese, who are in the leavening of their own Empire, to retire later. France kept making difficulties during the negotiations last year till she began an unprovoked war. Why should she not be suspected now of similar designs? The moment the Chinese troops recross the frontier all discipline and ardour will relax, and there is nothing to stop the French from following them up and seizing Loongchow. There are still many points to be discussed between the two countries, and no one has been appointed by France to settle them.

The Peking correspondent of the *Shen Pao*, writing on the 17th ultimo, says:—“I hear that Tien Chun-p'i, Governor of Kiangnan, and Yang, Viceroy of Fukien and Chekiang, have both memorialised, begging that Hau Yen-hai might be pardoned and ordered to proceed with an army to Kwangtung and chastise the French beyond the frontier and

recover Tonquin, as an atonement for his former fault. They assert that there are some thousands of the ex-Governor's irregulars willing to follow him and slay the foe in return for his kindness to them. The Empress Dowager consulted the Prince of Chun on the matter. The Prince represented that he did not know much about Hau's talents and strategical abilities. Her Majesty next questioned the Assistant Grand Secretary, Yen Ching-ming, and the President of the Board of Punishments, Chang Chih-wan, who replied that Hau's scholarship was excellent, but his strategy and military skill inferior to T'ang Ching-chu. Her Majesty made no reply and the Ministers retired. There seems to be considerable reason to hope that both these officers will escape execution.

OWING to the native authorities at Soochow declining to allow the American missionaries to carry out their plans on some land they have purchased there, Mr Consul Stevens of Ningpo has proceeded to Soochow to enquire into the matter.—N. C. D. News.

We (N. C. D. News) mentioned recently that a foreigner had attained a jinjiesha coffin in the back early on the morning of the 27th ult. and that the coffin had since died. The District Magistrate held an inquest on the body yesterday afternoon near the Rife Buts. In accordance with a legal fiction, the coffin was not opened, because the lid was not taken off, but it was opened nevertheless, the bottom being removed; and the body was taken out. The Magistrate examined the coffin, and asked him why he had taken the body away for interment without an inquest being held. The man replied that he did not know the coffin had died from wounds. He did not remove the body himself, but sent one of his assistants. Dr Mills and Inspector Mack were present at the inquest on behalf of the Council. The Magistrate thanked the police for their services, but gave no verdict. He took the coffin into the city with him, and asked for the address of the Chinese woman who was with the foreigner. She said she saw this man and the coffin fitting, but did not see the latter stabbed.

FINGO writes to the N. C. D. News from Peking as follows:—The latest wonder here is a prodigy in the shape of a young country boy of fourteen years from the hilly regions of Shantung. He was introduced to Prince Ch'ien by a Munchi expectant Ta-tai of that province. It is said that the boy, looking at his hand, can see things at a distance. Many trials have been made by different officials in Peking of the boy's skill and the trial has always proved successful. Stories have been told, how, when asked to see what they were doing in Annan, his answer was that he saw them fighting, and that the Dragon flag was victorious; the tricolour was no longer waving, but dragging in the dust. And sure enough, as our gossip states, a telegram came three days after, that Ch'ien had gained a great victory. He could tell, by looking at his hand, which was partially covered and concealed from view by different people,—what was the colour, shape, etc., of the object concealed. He often told the Chinese who saw him and the coffin fitting, but did not see the latter stabbed.

ALLEGED LARCENY BY A HOSPITAL SERVANT. Luen Aing, a coolie employed at the Government Civil Hospital, was charged by George Rogers, steward of the Hospital, with stealing a \$1 bank note, the property of the Government on the 5th inst.

The evidences of the steward was to the effect that on the 6th inst. defendant was sent by him to the Treasury office with a letter in which was enclosed a \$1 note. Defendant saw him enclose the note in the envelope. The letter was received by the Treasury Dept. without this dollar enclosed. Complaint afterwards arose that he did not himself put the bank note inside the letter. But he said he did not know what was in the letter. Defendant did not see the envelope.

He went to the Civil Hospital, said that he put the \$1 note into the envelope, closed it, and handed it to defendant to take to the Treasury.

Defendant stated that he handed the letter to the coolie at the Treasury who took it in and brought back a reply which he, defendant, had given to the steward.

The case was remanded till Saturday, the 9th instant.

(Before E. Ma Keen, Esq.)

PROSECUTOR. Lam Ayan and Wong Afat, described as salt smugglers, appeared on remand charged with pirating the Kam Man Shan, trading junk at Chi Chau. Lam on the 23rd April and also with attempting to extort money from the master of the junk on the 2nd instant.

Li Kwei, the master of the Kam Man Shan junk denied that on the 24th April he left Chi Chow with his junk, which contained a cargo of 300 piculs of molasses.

On the 28th ult. about midday, when of Chi Lan he saw a small boat following his junk and shortly after two musket shots were fired at the junk and the small boat came up close and ordered witness to stop.

They stopped the junk at once and the defendant and four other men, armed with muskets and knives, boarded the junk and made witness and the six seaman on the junk go down into the hold. They remained in the hold till 3 or 4 p.m. on the 29th, when they were close to Shek Tai. The hold was then opened and witness and two others allowed to go up. Defendant then told them that if they would pay 100 taels they would let the junk go. If they refused to pay the money defendants threatened to kill them. Witness had not the money on board but promised to pay defendants the Tls. 100 if they would come to Hongkong. They agreed to do this and sailed from Stanley, arriving here on the 2nd inst. Defendants and four others of the crew of the pirate boat landed with them and proceeded to the Sun Sing shop, where defendants were arrested.

Li Kwei, a trader, who was on board

the trading junk as the owner of the cargo of molasses, corroborated the master's evidence and added that it was he who promised the defendants the Tls. 100.

The first defendant gave witness a piece of paper and told him to write what he dictated, and this was the following effect:—“To the Tang Wo boat.—On the 11th day of this month (28 April) the Kam Man Shan junk, while sailing of the mouth of the Ping Hoi was taken by a Hawley boat. After the Kam Man Shan escaped from the Hawley boat, the remainder of the Tang Wo boat a reward of 100 taels in money was given to the Hawley boat as compensation.

“The Admiralty is acting in accordance with the Chinese, who are in the leavening of their own Empire, to retire later. France

kept making difficulties during the negotiations last year till she began an unprovoked war.

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## Mails.

### NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.  
PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, PONDICHERY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, ADM. SUEZ, PORT SAID, MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS, NAPLES, MARSEILLES, AND PORTS OF BRAZIL, AND LA PLATA; BORDEAUX, LE HAVRE, DUNKIRK, LONDON, AND ANTWERP.

ON THURSDAY, the 14th May, 1885, at Noon, the Company's S.S. YANGTSE, Commandant R. L. T. with MAIIS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for Long as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted until Noon.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m., Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m., on the 13th May, 1885. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agent's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are required.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,  
Agent.

Hongkong, May 1, 1885. 738

### U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship CITY OF PEKING will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, with the option of calling at Honolulu, on SATURDAY, the 16th May, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

Return Passage Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within six months, will be allowed a discount of 20% from Return Fare; if re-embarking within one year, an allowance of 10% will be made from Return Fare. Pro-Paid Return Passage Orders, available for one year, will be issued at a Discount of 25% from Return Fare. These allowances do not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m., the day previous to sailing. Parcels will be received at the office until 5 p.m., same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to ports beyond San Francisco should be sent to the Company's Offices in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information, apply to Passage and Freight, agent to the Agency of the Company, No. 53, Queen's Road Central.

F. E. FOSTER,  
Agent.

Hongkong, May 2, 1885. 724

## Intimations.

### SUMMER TIME TABLE.

#### THE KOWLOON FERRY.

STEAM-LAUNCH MORNING STAR runs DAILY as a FERRY-BOAT between Peddar's Wharf and Tsim-Tsa-Tsui at the following hours:

WEEK DAYS. SUNDAYS.

Leaves K. Town, Leaves K. Town, Leaves K. Town, 6.00 A.M. 6.00 A.M. 7.00 A.M.

8.00 " 8.30 " 7.30 " 8.00 "

8.50 " 9.00 " 9.00 " 10.15 "

9.40 " 10.15 " 11.00 " NOON.

10.45 " 12.30 P.M. 1.00 " 1.00 "

1.30 " 2.00 " 2.30 " 3.00 "

2.30 " 3.00 " 3.30 " 4.00 "

3.20 " 4.00 " 4.15 " 4.30 "

4.15 " 4.30 " 4.50 " 5.10 "

5.10 " 5.10 " 5.25 " 5.40 "

5.25 " 5.40 " 5.55 " 6.10 "

5.55 " 6.15 " 6.30 " 7.00 "

6.45 " 7.00 " 7.15 " 7.30 "

7.15 " 7.30 " 7.30 " 7.30 "

\* There will be no Launch on Monday and Friday, on account of cooling.

The above Time Table will be strictly adhered to, except under unavoidable circumstances. In case of stress of weather, due notice will be given of any stoppage.

### THE CHINESE MAIL.

THIS paper is now issued every day. The subscription is fixed at Four Dollars per annum, delivered in Hongkong, or Two Dollars Forty Cents including postage to Coast ports.

It is the first Chinese Newspaper ever issued under purely native direction. The chief support of the paper is of course derived from the native community, amongst whom also are to be found the guarantors and securities necessary to place it on a business and legal footing.

The projectors, being their estimates upon the most reliable information from the various parts in China and Japan, from Australia, California, Singapore, Penang, Saigon, and other places frequented by the Chinese, consider themselves justified in guaranteeing a large and ever-increasing circulation. The advantages offered to advertisers are therefore unusually great, and the foreign community generally will find to their interest to avail themselves of them.

The field open to a paper of this description—conducted by native efforts, but progressive and anti-obstructive in tone—is almost limitless. It is the one hand commands Chinese belief and interest, while on the other it deserves every aid that can be given to it by foreigners. Like English journals it contains Editorials, with Local, Shipping, and Commercial News and Advertisements.

Subscription orders for the above may be sent to

GEO. MURRAY BAIN,

China Mail Office.

### Hongkong Rates of Postage.

In the following Statements and Tables the Rates are given in cents, and are, for Letters per half ounce, for Books and Patterns, per two ounces.

Newspapers over four ounces in weight are charged as double, triple, &c., as the case may be, but such papers or packages of newspapers must not be folded together, one, nor must any paper be inserted except with its Supplements. Printed matter may, however, be enclosed, if the paper to be paid at Post Rate. Price Current may be paid either as Newspapers or Books.

Commercial Papers signify such papers as, though Written by Hand, do not bear the character of an actual or personal correspondence, such as invoices, deeds, copied music, &c. The charge on them is the same as for books, but, whatever the weight of a packet containing any partially written paper, it will not be charged less than 5 cents.

The sender of any Registered Article may accompany it with a Return Receipt on paying an extra fee of 5 cents.

The limit of weight for Books and Commercial Papers to Foreign Post Offices is 4 lbs. Patterns for such offices are limited to 8 ounces, and must not exceed these dimensions: 8 inches by 4 inches by 2 inches.

Books, Patterns and Books and Patterns, as though Written by Hand, do not bear the character of an actual or personal correspondence, such as invoices, deeds, copied music, &c. The charge on them is the same as for books, but, whatever the weight of a packet containing any partially written paper, it will not be charged less than 5 cents.

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